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ABSTRACT

After sketching the growth and general characteristics of library literature, the author examines what librarians think about the literature of librarianship. Early writers were more concerned with increasing the number of available sources than with objectively examining the literature. More recently a few historical or descriptive studies have been made. Those who have spoken out on the state of professional library literature in general, and of the periodical press in particular, have focused on six main points of criticism: (1) poor literary style and execution, (2) superfluity and repetition, (3) belaboring of the obvious, (4) paucity of significantly new ideas, (5) absence of a scholarly approach and (6) lack of evidence of research. The library profession has reached a point when it must examine the information needs of its membership and the channels by which these needs are fulfilled. The citation analysis method is used to get a generalized picture of what is used, or more precisely stated, what is brought to the attention of the reader of library science literature. The analysis involves three major types of source publications: (1) monographs, (2) journals and (3) library school syllabis. (see also LI 002 796 through LI 002 803 and LI 002 805 through LI 002 807). (NH)

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USE AND USERS OF LIBRARY LITERATURE

by

Thompson M. Little
Associate Director of Library Services
Hofstra University

LI 002 804

CONFERENCE ON THE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL
OF LIBRARY SCIENCE LITERATURE

State University of New York at Albany
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USE AND USERS OF LIBRARY LITERATURE

The major concern of this conference is the bibliographic control of library science literature. Some eight papers have been prepared for advance consumption with the hope that the conference attendees will be able to formulate some concrete proposals for improving the state of the information retrieval of our professional literature. Although my special assignment deals with the use and users of library science literature, I conceive of my role as being one which generally introduces the larger total problem being considered by the conference. Before turning my attention to the specific problem of use and users I would like first to examine the nature of this beast that we eventually hope to control.

No apparatus or system of control can be considered without first examining the body of recorded knowledge with which it is to deal. We must look at our professional literature with a critical eye. Do we really know what our information needs are? Do we know how well the various levels of information needs are being satisfied? Are we effectively communicating between ourselves? What are the most satisfactory channels of communication? Is all that we produce worth controlling? Are we making ourselves fully aware of significant and relevant information being generated in other professions? Until we can answer such questions with a certain amount of surety our efforts at bibliographic control will have little significance.

The library profession like all others has not escaped the twentieth century information explosion. As library service has expanded over the years the amount of professional literature has increased at a staggering rate. The number of monographic contributions to our literature has been small, especially in the early years, in comparison to the volume of periodical publication. The late 1920's saw a decided change as a result of the Williamson report, the activities of the American Association for Adult Education and the Carnegie Corporation of New York.[1] Measuring the growth of the monographic literature in quantitative terms is a difficult, if not impossible task. In 1913, for example, the American Library Association listed 39 titles in its catalog of publications. Ten years later 136 titles were listed in print and by 1933 this figure had reached 244 titles. Albeit still small, the number of outlets for monographic publication is growing. Our professional organizations and library schools have been joined in recent years by an increasing number of trade and specialized publishers.

The most dramatic element in our knowledge explosion has been the expansion of our periodical literature. No one knows exactly how many library oriented periodicals have appeared during the last 100 years. Figure 1 is an attempt to plot graphically the growth of our periodical

[1]Wilson, Louis R. "The challenge of library literature to education for librarianship 1923-1953." In Shores, Louis. Challenges to librarianship. Tallahassee, Florida State University, 1953. p.127.

press. The International Federation of Documentation's publication Library and documentation periodicals,[2] which lists substantive titles being currently published in 1961, was used as a base. To this was added information from other bibliographical listings and sources.[3] In expanding and amending the original listing certain criteria were maintained. Emphasis was upon substantive publications. Excluded were such things as staff association bulletins, publishers' promotional titles, bibliographical listings, individual library and library association newsletters. Only currently published titles were included with the exception of some significant journals which ran for a number of years. Some titles may well have since ceased publication, but these few would not significantly alter the dramatic sweep of the curve.

Nearly 500 periodicals are included in Figure 1 (no claim for completeness is expressed or implied) which shows three separate curves: the first being international in scope; the second showing English language titles published in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and the Union of South Africa; and the third showing all other foreign language titles. Table 1 summarizes the data in tabular form.

[2]International Federation for Documentation. Library and documentation periodicals. 2d rev. ed. The Hague, 1961. 30p. (lists 381 titles)

[3]Winckler, Paul A. Library periodicals directory. Brookville, N.Y. Graduate Library School of Long Island Univ., 1967. 76p. (lists 311 periodical titles); Springman, Mary A. and Betty M. Brown. Directory of library periodicals. Philadelphia, Drexel Press, 1967. 192p. (lists ca. 700 American library periodicals); Ulrich's international periodicals directory. 11th ed. N.Y., Bowker, 1966; New serial titles. 1950-1960. Washington, Library of Congress, 1961. 1961-1965 N.Y., Bowker, 1966; Union list of serials in the libraries of the U.S. and Canada. 3d ed. N.Y., Wilson, 1965; Library literature; Library science abstracts.

FIGURE 1
Library Periodical Titles
1896 - 1966

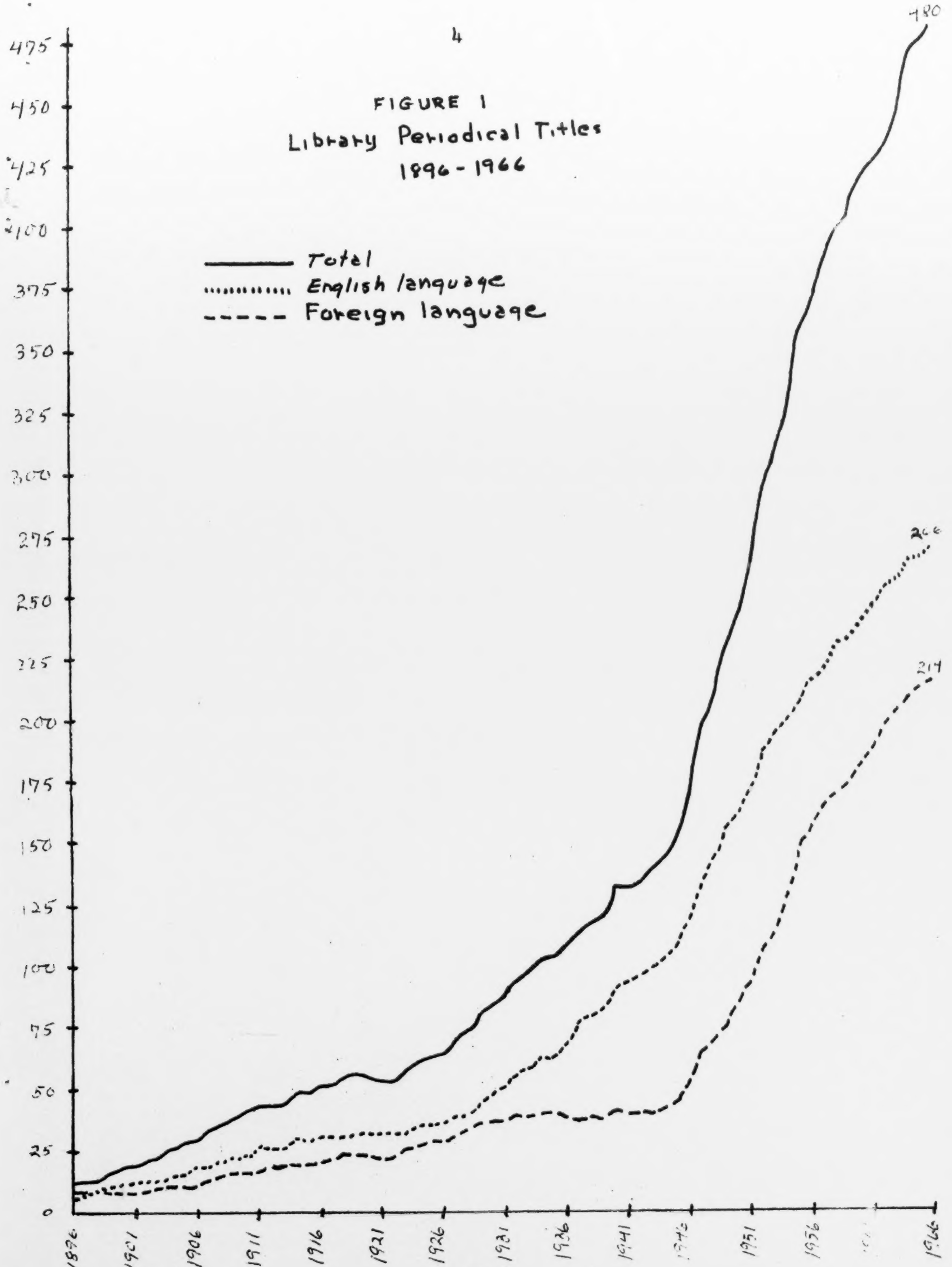

TABLE 1

PERIODICAL TITLES

	English Language	Foreign Language	Total
1871 - 1876	2	2	4
1877 - 1881	0	0	0
1882 - 1886	2	2	4
1887 - 1891	0	2	2
1892 - 1896	1	0	1
1897 - 1901	6	2	8
1902 - 1906	7	3	10
1907 - 1911	8	5	13
1912 - 1916	5	5	10
1917 - 1921	1	0	1
1922 - 1926	4	7	11
1927 - 1931	15	8	23
1932 - 1936	18	3	21
1937 - 1941	23	1	24
1942 - 1946	27	15	42
1947 - 1951	50	36	86
1952 - 1956	43	64	107
1957 - 1961	30	32	62
1962 - 1966	24	27	51
TOTAL	266	214	480

At the turn of the century 17 library periodicals were extant -- 7 of these being published in the United States and 4 in Great Britain. In the first quarter of the twentieth century this figure jumped to a total of 59 with 32 being English language publications. The decade before World War II saw the addition of 43 English language and 9 foreign language titles. Interestingly enough the war years saw no significant decline in this growth rate. By 1946 115 English language and 54 foreign titles were being published. Then came the deluge. 147 English language titles and 159 foreign publications came into existence between 1947 and 1966. Put another way 63.75% of all the periodicals in existence today began publication during the two decades since World War II. Not surprisingly fourteen of the eighteen indexing and abstracting services studied by H. A. Whatley were initiated after 1950.[4]

What has characterized this body of literature during its years of development? In reviewing our professional literature of the past one hundred years one cannot escape the realization that the development of our professional writing is but a reflection of our progress toward professional maturity. The growth of a profession and its literature are as inseparable as environment and heredity.

Only fragments survive today from the archeological era of librarianship. W.C.B. Sayers pays tribute to such names as Callimachus, Gesner, Durie and Naudé for their contributions to the earliest literature of librarianship.[5]

[4]Whatley, H. Alan. A survey of major indexing and abstracting services for library science and documentation. London, Library Association, 1966. 78p.

[5]Sayers, W. C. Berwick. "Library economy writers." Library review 7:11-12 (1939-40)

In the antiquity of our profession the literature of librarianship was dominated by the "bookish" tradition -- when the learned scholar or bibliographer occasionally turned his pen to practical library problems. During the youth of our profession in the late years of the 19th century this tradition continued with such notable exceptions as Dewey, Poole, Spofford and Winsor.

In the early years of the twentieth century the "bookish tradition" slowly gave way to the "pragmatic" and the literature of librarianship was dominated by concern with procedures, methods and techniques. Our craft, so to speak, was "aborning." W.C.B. Sayers finds this to be a natural phenomenon "all arts and crafts are in the beginning empirical; practice must always have gone before theory, work before its definition and exposition..."[6] To many in our profession the continued influence of the pragmatic and the procedural upon our literature is a matter of concern, but as Carl M. White points out "the sharing of experience and improving of tools to work with are tasks that are never finished..."[7]

A new era in our professional development was signaled by the Williamson report in 1923 which sharply focused attention on the shortcomings of education for librarianship and the inadequacy of the "housekeeping" literature available to students.[8] The flurry of

[6] ibid. p.9

[7] White, Carl M. Bases of modern librarianship. N.Y., Macmillan, 1964. p.21.

[8] Williamson, Charles C. Training for library service. N.Y., 1923. Chp. 6 "Textbooks" pp.48-52.

publishing activity during the late 1920's produced works covering a wider range of interest than library publications did prior to 1923, but they still were primarily concerned with the activities of libraries.[9]

During the 1930's a social consciousness, spurred by the depression years, seemed to pervade the library profession. Librarians saw the need to widen their horizons if library service was to take its proper place in the socio-cultural development of the nation. The literature of librarianship and the curriculum of the library schools began to reflect this new concern as librarians became acutely aware of administration, human relations, education and communications. It soon became apparent that expanding vistas were not enough. What was needed was the critical introspective analysis of the problems, the goals and the achievements of library science along with investigation of our relationships with other disciplines and professions.

The first expression of this new dimension of our professional development was centered at the University of Chicago where "progress was made in laying a solid foundation for the new application of research to the library as a social institution."[10] The establishment of the Library quarterly and later College and research libraries provided outlets for scholarly articles and reports of investigation. Slow in beginning, our research activity was jolted by World War II. Research

[9]Wilson, Louis R. op. cit. p.130.

[10]Shera, Jesse H. "Darwin, Bacon and research in librarianship." Library trends 13:145 (July, 1964)

became a magical word and librarians, generally ill-equipped for the task, were swept up in a frenzy of so-called research. Unfortunately the resultant literature bore no marked difference from that of earlier years -- old wine in a new bottle.

Research in librarianship has many unresolved problems which cannot be considered here, but during recent years there seems to be evidence that we are making some progress in defining our research needs, in developing a methodological base and in recruiting and training a new generation of specialists. Our literature is beginning in a small way to reflect the results of this activity.

Library literature of today retains many of its past characteristics, both good and bad. The humanistic, the pragmatic and the socio-economic traditions have given way, in turn, one to the other. The "new tradition" seems to be characterized by the objective approach of the natural and physical sciences. Productive research, if not dominant today, certainly will be in the near future. Hopefully its dominance will not eliminate that which is essential from our historic traditions.

Having thus far sketched the growth and general characteristics of our literature there still remains the need to examine what we as librarians think about the literature of librarianship. Have we as a profession demonstrated much concern about the calibre, content, purpose and effectiveness of our professional literature? The answer to all these points is generally no we have not. Nearly all the commentary on the state of library literature has appeared since 1950. That this should coincide with the sharp increase in output is not surprising. Sheer volume and the rapidity of events of the mid-century era made us uneasy.

Earlier writers commented upon library literature only in an incidental way and they seemed more concerned with increasing the number of available sources than with objectively examining the literature. More recently a few historical or descriptive studies have been made. W.C.B. Sayers[11] presents a reminiscent historical survey of major "library economy writers." Louis R. Wilson[12] describes the general development in the United States from 1923 to 1953. Ralph A. Carlson[13] briefly surveys state library association publications extant in 1957 and 1958. Nancy L. Blouch[14] relates the historical development of major American library periodicals, Harold Lancour[15] finds little to be enthusiastic about in 1956, while Helen E. Wessells[16] describes the current scene of the early 1960's. Carolyn F. Bucknall[17] traces the history and development of the publications of the American Library Association while Paulene Love[18] describes ALA publishing objectives as of 1956.

[11]Sayers, W. C. Berwick op. cit. 7:8-3, 69-74, 114-21, 166-69, 198-203 (1939-40)

[12]Wilson, Louis R. op. cit. pp.125-140.

[13]Carlson, Ralph A. A survey of state library association publications from January 1957 to December 1958. Thesis (MS in LS) Western Reserve Univ., 1959. 48p.

[14]Blough, Nancy L. Histories of some major library periodicals. Thesis (MS in LS) Western Reserve Univ., 1955. 67p.

[15]Lancour, Harold, "Trends in the library periodical world." Library Periodicals Round Table Newsletter 3:18-20 (1956)

[16]Wessells, Helen E. "Bibliographical and library science periodicals." Library trends 10:414-426 (Jan. 1962)

[17]Bucknall, Carolyn F. Analysis of publications issued by the American Library Association 1907-1957. Thesis (MLS) Univ. of Texas, 1959. 59p.

[18]Love, Paulene "Objectives of ALA publications." ILA record 9:61-3 (1956)

Those who have spoken out on the state of our professional literature in general, and of the periodical press in particular, have focused on six main points of criticism; poor literary style and execution, superfluity and repetition, belaboring of the obvious, paucity of significantly new ideas, absence of a scholarly approach, and lack of evidence of research.[19] Louis Shores, speaking in a more temperate vein, sees hopeful signs and reminds us that these shortcomings are not unique to the library profession.[20]

The bulk of this criticism has been directed toward our periodical press. Concern over the burgeoning number of library periodicals led to the establishment of the ALA Library Periodicals Round Table in 1952. During its nine year lifetime this group did much valuable work which is reported in its Newsletter. Leon Carnovsky's[21] plea for standards for library periodicals and John Harvey's[22] outline of the research needs on library periodical publications are as valid today as they were twelve or more years ago.[23]

[19]Becker, Philip G. "How to write effectively for a library periodical." Wilson library bulletin 31:539+ (1957); Bird, Jack. "Role of professional periodicals in education for librarianship and information work." Aslib proceedings 9:55-67 (1956); Blake, Fay M. "Look at library literature." Wilson library bulletin 35:715+ (1961); Harwell, Richard. "The magic triad; books people and ideas." Wilson library bulletin 34:655-56+ (1960); Thompson, Donald E. "Sad state of library literature." ALA bulletin 55:642-44 (1961).

[20]Shores, Louis. "Library literature." In Marshall, John D. Louis Shores; a bibliography. Tallahassee, Florida State Univ., 1964. pp.29-31.

[21]Carnovsky, Leon. "Standards for professional library periodicals." Library Periodicals Round Table. Newsletter 2:1, 3-6 (Jan. 1955) also in Library journal 80:264-69 (1955).

[22]Harvey, John. "Research needed on library periodicals." Library Periodicals Round Table. Newsletter 3:3-6 (Jan. 1956).

[23]Oboler, Eli M. "Carnovsky revisited; or library periodicals seven years later." Library Periodicals Round Table. Newsletter v.9 no.2 pp.3-4 (June 1962)

Some critics have called for additional periodical titles, but more have felt that we needed less. Our library editors, in reply, feel generally that we could do with fewer journals, pointing out that their problem is not lack of material, but a lack of good material.[24] Leon Carnovsky[25] points out "many of the periodicals which are continually coming into existence may reflect new areas of specialization, and this may be a sign of vitality in the profession; on the other hand it would be difficult to justify the establishment of some which publish little of anything which is new."

As sharp, and as justified, as much of this criticism may be, very little in the way of constructive ideas has emerged. One gets the feeling that we are heading off in all directions at once with little or no rhyme or reason to our progress. Leon Carnovsky puts the issue sharply in focus "until we demand -- and help produce -- solid substance for our professional literature we shall have to take what we get."[26]

[24]Moon, Eric. "Popular or scholarly." Library journal 87:2330 (June 15, 1962); Moon, Eric. "Dullness and duplication." Library journal 86:2760 (Sept. 1, 1964); Moon, Eric "Comment" on Lee H. Gregory "We need another national library periodical." Library Periodicals Round Table. Newsletter v. 8 no. 1 pp.2-3 (March 1961); Wakeman, John. "Mumbling into our pillows." Library Periodicals Round Table. Newsletter v.7 no. 3 pp.3-5 (July 1960); Wakeman, John. "Comment" on Lee H. Gregory op. cit. p.3; Bird, Jack, "New look at library literature." Aslib proceedings 7:74-83 (1955); Benge, R.C. "Our library journals." Library assistant 44:117-120 (1951); Whatley, H. Allan. "Way through the wood." Library Journal 86:4252+ (Dec. 15, 1961); Whatley, H. Allan. "Library science periodicals." Stechert-Hafner book news 19:49-51 (1965); Berry, John M. "Library periodicals lack originality." Bay state librarian v. 54 no. 2 p8+ (April 1964)

[25]Carnovsky, Leon. "Library periodicals; objectives, theory and practice." ILA record 9:70 (1956).

[26]ibid. p.70

There are those who would diagnose the present state of our professional literature as an acute case of growing pains. I feel that the situation is much more serious. In a talk before a group of technical services librarians Edwin Castagna[27] touched upon one aspect of the more central issue -- lack of effective communication. Enlarging on this I feel that the library profession, along with some others, has reached a point where it must examine in minute detail the information needs of its membership and the channels by which these needs are fulfilled. We must, for example, determine the degree of information need satisfaction found in the published library literature as opposed to other methods of information need satisfaction. Bibliographic organization plays an important role in this dissemination process, but it is only one aspect of a much larger mosaic.

Our professional organizations must follow the lead of the American Psychological Association's Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology. This investigation had as its main objective the development of a natural history of scientific information exchange in psychology whereby "an objective overall description of communication patterns would supplant individual impressions about what occurs in communication among psychologists with reliable data that could be used in managing the existing dissemination system and in planning changes."[28]

[27]Castagna, Edwin. "Please help me to understand." Library resources and technical services 5:301-306 (1961).

[28]Garvey, William and Belver C. Griffith. "Scientific communications; the dissemination system in psychology and a theoretical framework for planning innovations." American psychologist 20:157 (1964); See also American Psychological Association. Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology. Report v. 1- Washington, 1963-

Only with a similar effort will the library profession arrive at any meaningful conceptualization of our information system. Basic elements in any such investigation are of course the producers and consumers of information -- which leads us, finally, to my specific assignment -- the use and users of library literature.

Use and users might be more suitable stated as "who uses" and "who uses what?" We can safely assume that professional librarians and library school students are the chief consumers of library literature. What is not so easily answered are such questions as "what specifically do they use?" and "for what purpose?" An additional question of some significance would be "what library science literature is not used at all?" Any meaningful investigation of these questions would be a project in the magnitude of the American Psychological Association's project and obviously can not be attempted here.

We must look instead to some other means of arriving at a quantitative (if not qualitative) picture of the use of library literature. It should be possible to get some idea of the use and users of our professional literature by selectively analyzing writings in the field -- for the producer of a piece of library literature can also be viewed as a consumer. The purpose here is to establish from visible evidence some quantitative measure of what elements of library literature are being used as expressed in citations made by library authors. Implied here, but not measurable, is the potential use of these citations by the reader.

What has been done in this area to date? Citation analysis as a devise has been used by many, especially in the natural and physical sciences, to determine users' needs or to identify "core" materials. Richard A. Davis' Bibliography of use studies lists 438 items which included, within a broad scope, citation analyses, questionnaire surveys, interviews, and diary studies.[29] C. W. Hanson surveys progress to date on research into users' needs.[30]

Studies which deal with problems of library literature are more scarce. Carlos A. Cuadra[31] utilizes citation analysis to identify key contributors to information science. Alan Gilchrist[32] uses a citation technique to test abstracting services in the field of documentation. Eunice C. Wilson[33] surveyed four periodical indexes to determine the content analysis of library oriented articles appearing in non-library

[29]Davis, Richard A. and Catherine A. Bailey. Bibliography of use studies. Philadelphia, Graduate School of Library Science, Drexel Institute of Technology, 1964. 98p.

[30]Hanson, C.W. "Research on user's needs; where is it getting us?" Aslib proceedings 16:64-78 (1964)

[31]Cuadra, Carlos A. Identifying key contributors to information science. Santa Monica, Calif., Systems Development Corp., 1963. 23p. See also John Sherrod's comment "Selective publication of information." Special libraries 55:386-7 (1964).

[32]Gilchrist, Alan. "Documentation of Documentation..." Aslib proceedings 18:62-80 (1966)

[33]Wilson, Eunice C. Survey of articles on librarianship in non-library periodicals from 1947-1951. Thesis (Ms in LS) Atlanta Univ., 1953. 103p.

publications. Ruby E. Friesen's study[34] concentrated on a quantitative analysis of articles on the school library appearing in the periodicals indexed in Library literature and the Education index. Carl F. Lamers[35] attempts to define the relative impact of American writing on foreign librarianship by analyzing American publications included in Library science abstracts. Of a total of 4,455 articles from 167 American periodicals abstracted from 1950 to 1962, 4,136 (92.8%) were from only 40 periodicals. (See appendix A). Peter W. Hart[36] analyzes the periodical citations in ten source books and five journals for a period of five years to determine those periodical titles most useful to librarianship. Of 2,203 articles tabulated, 1,773 (80.4%) came from only six journals (see appendix A). Walter M. Barnard[37] attempts to identify certain characteristics of the materials used (cited) by American library authors of 153 periodical articles appearing from January 1955 through December 1956. Of the total 1,816 citations studied 684 (37.7%) were monographic publications and 863 were periodical articles. Of these 863 periodical references 512 (58.6%) were from ten journals. (See appendix A).

[34]Friesen, Ruby E. Survey of articles on the school library published in library and education periodicals. Thesis (AM) Univ. of Denver, 1949. 66p.

[35]Lamers, Carl F. American publications in Library science abstracts; 1950-1962; a content analysis. Thesis (MLS) Univ. of Texas, 1965. 57p.

[36]Hart, Peter W. Periodicals for professional librarianship. Thesis (MS in LS) Catholic Univ. of America, 1950. 52p.

[37]Barnard, Walter M. Characteristics of literature used by the American authors of journal articles in library science. Thesis (MS in LS) Univ. of North Carolina, 1957. 62p.

Only two studies concerned with use have approached the user for information. C. W. Hanson and Patricia Tilbury[38] present the results of a survey of the reading habits of 96 of the 257 special librarians attending the 1962 Aslib Conference. Mary L. Bundy[39] surveys 129 public librarians as to the role that library periodicals play in administrative decision making. Her conclusions are generally positive, but it is interesting that her query as to the rank order of information sources elicited responses which bear a striking resemblance to some of the findings of the American Psychological Association project.

The methodological weaknesses of the citation analysis device have been pointed out by many.[40] Is every item actually used in the production of a piece of library literature always cited? Does the author really use all the material he cites? Are the source items truly representative of the whole field? In lieu of a more ambitious

[38]Hanson, C.W. and Patricia Tilbury. "Library literature read by Aslib Conference attendees." Journal of documentation 19:63-71 (1963).

[39]Bundy, Mary L. "Public library administrators view their professional periodicals." Illinois libraries 43:397-420 (1961).

[40]See for example: Stevens, Rolland E. Use of library materials in doctoral research. Thesis (PhD) Univ. of Illinois, 1951. 149p.; Stevens, Rolland P. "The study of research use of libraries." Library quarterly 26:41-51 (Jan. 1956); Fussler, Herman H. "Characteristics of the research literature used by chemists and physicists in the U.S." Library quarterly 19:19-35, 119-43 (Jan. and Apr. 1949); Quinn, Edward W. Characteristics of the literature used by authors of books in the field of sociology. Thesis (AM) Univ. of Chicago, 1951. 55p.; Brodman, Estelle. "Choosing physiology journals." Medical Library Association Bulletin. 32:479-83 (Oct. 1944).

undertaking, involving a questionnaire survey such as Bundy's or Hanson's, a further citation analysis may give us a generalized picture of what is used, or more precisely stated, what is brought to the attention of the reader of library science literature.

My analysis involves three major types of source publications: (1) monographs, (2) journals, and (3) library school syllabi. For each source item citations were tabulated in four categories: first "library monographs", i.e. produced by librarians or information science personnel on topics within these fields, or by others with this group intended as the prime audience; second, "other monographs", i.e. falling outside the criteria above; third, "library periodicals", i.e. those recognized as being designed primarily for library and information science audiences; and fourth, all "other periodicals."

The source publications were selected to give as broad a picture as possible without placing too much emphasis on any one area of library activity. Of the fifty source items analyzed twenty-seven were monographs published, mainly, in the past five years and they are listed in Table 2. The tabulation of the fifteen periodicals listed in Table 3 was based upon significant or feature articles only and the number of articles surveyed is included in the tabulations. With the exception of one from the University of Illinois the eight syllabi listed in Table 4 are for courses currently offered at the School of Library Service of Columbia University.

TABLE 2

MONOGRAPH SOURCE TITLES

Archer, H. Richard. Rare book collections. Chicago, ALA, 1965. 123p.

Becker, Joseph and Robert M. Hayes. Information storage and retrieval. N.Y., Wiley, 1964. 448p.

Bourne, Charles P. Methods of information handling. N.Y., Wiley, 1966. 241p.

Bowker, Roberta. Local public library administration. Chicago, International City Managers Assoc., 1964. 375p.

Clapp, Vernor W. Future of the research library. Urbana, Univ. of Illinois Press, 1964. 114p.

Conant, Ralph W. Public library and the city. Cambridge, MIT Press, 1965. 216p.

Dougherty, Richard M. and Fred J. Heinritz. Scientific management of library operations. N.Y., Scarecrow, 1966. 258p.

Ellsworth, Ralph. The school library. N.Y., Center for Applied Research in Education, 1965. 115p.

Foskett, D.J. Classification and indexing in the social sciences. Washington, Butterworths, 1963. 190p.

Gross, Elizabeth H. Children's service in public libraries. Chicago, ALA, 1963. 124p.

Illinois University. Graduate School of Library Science. Literature of library technical services. Rev. ed. Urbana, 1963. 66p. (Occasional papers no. 58)

Library Technology Project. Protecting the library and its resources. Chicago, ALA, 1963. 322p.

Lohrer, Alice. School library materials center. Urbana, Illini, 1964. 109p.

Lyle, Guy R. Administration of the college library. 3d ed. N.Y., Wilson, 1961. 419p.

McCormick, Edward M. Bibliography on mechanized library processes. Washington, Office of Science Information Service, National Science, Foundation, 1963. 27p.

(continued)

TABLE 2 (Continued)

Metcalfe, Keyes D. Planning academic and research library buildings. N.Y., McGraw Hill, 1965. 431p.

Monroe, Margaret E. Library adult education. N.Y., Scarecrow, 1963. 550p.

Monypenny, Phillip. Library functions of the states. Chicago, ALA, 1966. 178p.

Osborn, Andrew D. Serial publications. Chicago, ALA, 1955. 309p.

Schutze, Gertrude. Documentation source book. N.Y., Scarecrow, 1965. 554p.

Sharp, John R. Some fundamentals of information retrieval. London, Adrew Deutsch, 1965. 224p.

Sinclair, Dorothy. Administration of the small public library. Chicago, ALA, 1965. 173p.

Sollenberger, Judity K. In-service training; a bibliography. Chicago, Library Administration Division, ALA, 1962. 22p.

Tauber, Maurice F. Technical services in libraries. N.Y., Columbia Univ. Press, 1954. 487p.

Wheeler, Helen R. The community college library. Hamden, Conn., Shoe String Press, 1965. 170p.

Wheeler, Joseph L. and Herbert Goldhor. Practical administration of public libraries. N.Y., Harper, 1962. 571p.

Wulfekoetter, Gertrude. Acquisition work. Seattle, Univ. of Washington Press, 1961. 268p.

TABLE 3

PERIODICAL SOURCE TITLES

American Documentation	v. 16 (1965)
American Library Association. Bulletin	v. 60 (1966)
College and Research Libraries	v. 27 (1966)
Illinois Libraries	v. 48 (1966)
Journal of Documentation	v. 22 (1966)
Library Journal (including "Children's and Young People's Section.")	v. 90 (1965)
Library Quarterly	v. 35 (1965)
Library Resources and Technical Services	v. 10 (1966)
Library Trends	v. 14 (1965/66)
School Libraries	v. 16 (1966)
Southeastern Librarian	v. 16 (1966)
Special Libraries	v. 56 (1965)
Top of the News	v. 23 (1966/67)
Unesco Bulletin for Libraries	v. 20 (1966)
Wilson Library Bulletin	v. 40 (1965/66)

TABLE 4

SYLLABI SOURCE TITLES

Lib. Sci. 428	Library buildings (Univ. of Illinois)
K6041	Organization of library materials (Columbia Univ.)
K8011	Library administration (Columbia Univ.)
K8021	Human relations in library administration (Columbia Univ.)
K8302	Comparative librarianship (Columbia Univ.)
K9002	Seminar in reader services (Columbia Univ.)
K9015	Seminar in library organization - research libraries (Columbia Univ.)
K9016	Seminar in library organization - public libraries (Columbia Univ.)

The figures generated from this investigation can only be considered as raw data. In order to provide a broad based sample depth of analysis was sacrificed. Technical reports, proceedings and annual reports could have been separately tabulated instead of being incorporated in the four categories utilized. The tabulation method provided that a given monograph cited in any source item would be listed only once, but it was not possible to do this for periodical articles. The tabulation for periodical article citations was arranged by title so that the figures would show the number of times a given journal was cited. There was no provision made for avoiding multiple listing of the same citation in different source items, hence the figures below do not represent the actual number of unique citations to any work.[41]

[41]Knowing the number of times a particular item was cited or the importance of date of publication would have been interesting and indicative, but the methodology involved would have severely limited the scope of this investigation.

The data compiled is summarized in Tables 5 and 6 and is presented in more detail for each of the source categories in Tables 7, 8 and 9. Granting methodological limitations what emerges is merely a profile of our citation structure in the mid-1960's which is suggestive of the use of library literature. Some indicative factors, however do appear.

Table 5 summarizes the citation distribution for the fifty source items. From this we can see that 45.2% of the citations were to library

TABLE 5

Sources	Total Citations	Library Monographs		Other Monographs		Library Periodicals		Other Periodicals	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Monographs	8,249	2,262	27.3	1,052	12.8	4,113	49.8	822	10.0
Syllabi	1,136	450	39.6	139	12.2	513	45.1	34	3.0
Periodicals	2,649	922	34.8	574	21.6	825	31.1	328	12.4
TOTAL	12,034	3,634		1,765		5,451		1,184	
% of total		30.2%		14.7%		45.2%		9.9%	

periodicals and 30.2% to library monographs. This would seem to indicate that the position of the monograph is more important than one would expect when compared to the volume of periodical literature. Put another way, the frequency of citation to periodical literature does not seem commensurate with the volume produced.

Table 6 groups these percentage figures in a different way. Here

TABLE 6

Source	Library and other monographs	Library and other periodicals	Library Literature	Other Literature
Monographs	40.1%	59.8%	77.1%	22.8%
Syllabi	51.8%	48.1%	84.7%	15.3%
Periodicals	56.4%	43.5%	65.9%	34.0%
Totals from Table 5	44.9%	55.1%	75.4%	24.6%

we see that library literature (monograph and periodical) accounts for 75.4% of the citations with syllabi contributing the highest percentage. Again periodical literature (library and other) seems to rank low when compared to total periodical literature output. "Other literature" also seems to contribute a low percentage suggesting that our use of information from other disciplines is still not at the level it should be. Table 7 suggests that the heaviest use of "other literature" is in the fields of administration, information retrieval and documentation, e.g. 34% of Joseph Wheeler's citations are to "other literature."

One factor of some significance, emerging from Tables 7, 8, and 9, is the number of journal titles which are cited. Schutze's bibliography leads with 89 followed by Library trends, the next highest, which cites only 45. The median for all fifty sources is 16 1/2. This suggests a high concentration of citation to only a few journals -- a fact

SOURCE MONOGRAPHS

	Total citations	Library Monographs	Other Monographs	Library Periodicals *	Other Periodicals
Osborn	471	149	3	311(28)	8
Tauber	525	185	6	330(33)	4
Wulkekoetter	359	136	6	212(26)	5
Ill.Occ.Paper	300	157	23	116(20)	4
Lyle	603	164	35	380(39)	24
Clapp	58	24	5	25(12)	4
Wheeler,H.	153	49	18	54(17)	32
Sinclair	153	69	3	78(22)	3
Wheeler, J.	927	252	206	361(39)	108
Conant	122	41	27	44(12)	10
Bowler	140	61	55	23(8)	1
Lohrer	58	17	23	12(3)	6
Gross	36	14	5	16(4)	1
Ellsworth	49	20	18	6(4)	5
Becker	178	46	56	26(8)	50
McCormack	152	48	5	92(22)	7
Sharp	104	42	17	28(7)	17
Foskett	189	51	55	51(20)	32
Bourne	555	63	124	184(16)	184
Metcalfe	116	42	25	34(12)	15
Archer	99	65	5	28(14)	1
Schutze	1,992	412	156	1,219(89)	205
Sollenberger	175	18	8	81(37)	68
Dougherty	69	7	50	12(7)	0
Monypenny	73	44	3	23(10)	3
Monroe	423	79	23	307(17)	14
LTP	170	7	92	60(17)	11
TOTAL	8,249	2,262	1,052	4,113	822
%	100%	27.3%	12.8%	49.8%	10.0%

* Figure in parentheses is the number of journal titles cited

TABLE 8

SOURCE SYLLABI

	Total citations	Library monographs	Other monographs	Library Periodicals *	Other Periodicals
LS428	185	69	16	81(18)	19
K6041	177	112	0	62(20)	3
K8011	213	61	40	111(13)	1
K8021	98	8	61	27(8)	2
K8302	95	48	12	35(12)	0
K9002	126	47	4	74(22)	1
K9015	144	54	6	77(16)	7
K9016	98	51	0	46(17)	1
TOTAL	1,136	450	139	513	34
%	100%	39.6%	12.2%	45.1%	3.0%

* Figure in parentheses is the number of journal titles cited

TABLE 9

SOURCE PERIODICALS

Journal	Total Articles	Articles "0" Citations	Total Citations	Library Monograph	Other Monograph	Library Periodical *	Other Periodical
Lit. Trends	47	5	539	230	70	177(45)	62
CRL	47	14	365	77	120	109(32)	59
Lib. Quart.	22	1	307	125	67	94(33)	21
LRTS	50	26	225	100	16	90(33)	19
Amer. Doc.	27	6	192	41	77	36(10)	38
Lib. Jour.	167	124	187	59	55	51(23)	22
Unesco Bull.	30	13	168	46	17	97(20)	8
Wilson Bull.	63	39	158	39	67	29(15)	23
Spec. Libs.	49	30	146	71	13	54(14)	8
J. of Doc.	24	8	115	50	7	37(11)	21
Illinois Libs.	61	41	94	32	30	14(8)	18
ALA Bull.	57	39	76	16	17	23(8)	20
SE Librarian	18	14	30	17	1	9(4)	3
School Libs.	18	13	25	5	12	3(3)	5
Top of the News	22	18	22	14	5	2(2)	1
TOTAL	702	391	2,649	922	574	825	328
%			100%	34.8%	21.6%	31.1%	12.4%

* Figure in parentheses is the number of journal titles cited

substantiated if we compare these results with that of Hart,[42] Barnard[43] and Lamers.[44] Appendix A compares the ranking of library periodicals as indicated in the four studies.

Hart's data shows that from a total of 2,203 articles studied, 1,879 (85.7%) were from ten journals and 91% from twenty journals. Lamers' figures are 63.9% for ten, 81.8% for twenty, and 89% for thirty journals. Barnard's ten journals accounted for 58.6% of all the articles studied. The ranking of the present study correlates very closely with 3,522 (64.6%) of the citations from ten journals, 78% from twenty, and 83% from thirty. (The full ranking of the present study is found in Appendix B).

There is also a high correlation for individual titles included in the first ten of each of the four rankings. Mary L. Bundy[45] also found that most of these same titles were mentioned in parts of her survey. These titles are marked with an asteriskin Appendix A. To say that these "top ten" or "top twenty" constitute the most important library periodicals is hazardous. What can be said, however, is that they occupy significant positions within the information system of the library profession. Added weight is given to this argument when we see that these same journals have a high rate of circulation.

[42] op. cit. footnote no. 36

[43] op. cit. footnote no. 37

[44] op. cit. footnote no. 35

[45] op. cit. footnote no. 39

Conclusions are troublesome things, especially when one is merely attempting to paint a picture rather than delving for all the facts. There are some things that we can conclude. First, utilization of our own literature is high -- not a sin in itself, but the intricacies of our profession and the involvement of librarianship in the total knowledge dissemination system suggests broader horizons in our use patterns. Secondly, use of our periodical literature is concentrated in a relatively few journal titles. To say that all others should be eliminated would be foolhardy until such time as a real test of their value in the information/communication system is devised. Thirdly, our problems are not unique. Other professions and other disciplines are faced with similar situations, but we have been more concerned about their problems than we have with our own.

What about bibliographic organization? As I have suggested elsewhere in this paper bibliographic organization is simply one element in an information dissemination system. Until such time as we can fully investigate and identify the other elements in this system, bibliographic organization can not be assigned its proper role. Short term improvements can be made, but long range plans are futile unless we can accurately define our needs for information and identify the most effective channels for satisfying these needs. Until this happens our literature will expand in quantity and deteriorate in quality leaving us, the experts, in the unenviable position of not being able to keep our own house in order.

March, 1968

APPENDIX A

Comparative ranking of library periodicals from four studies

	Hart (1950) 2,203 articles		Barnard (1957) 863 articles		Lamers (1965) 4,455 articles		Little(1968) 5,451 citations	
1.	*Library journal	503	*Library journal	119	*Library journal	591	*Library journal	645
2.	*CRL	347	*CRL	82	*Illinois libs.	307	*CRL	590
3.	*ALA bulletin	330	*ALA bulletin	74	*CRL	291	*Special libraries	426
4.	*Library quarterly	326	*Library quarterly	65	*Wilson lib. bull.	285	*Library trends	379
5.	*Special libraries	167	*Special libraries	44	*ALA bulletin	273	American document.	343
6.	*Wilson lib. bull.	100	*Library trends	35	Med. Lib. Assoc. Bull	268	*ALA bulletin	325
7.	Med.Lib.Assoc.Bull.	37	PW	26	*Special libraries	267	*Library quarterly	253
8.	American archivist	26	*J.of cat. & class.	25	*Library trends	224	LRTS	227
9.	J. Docum. reprod.	22	Amer. documentation	25	*Library quarterly	172	*Wilson lib. bull.	194
10.	PNLA quarterly	21	Amer. archivist	17	Amer. documentation	171	Aslib proceedings	140
	85.7%	1,879	58.6%	512	63.9%	2,849	64.6%	3,522
11.	Lib. Assoc. record	19			Amer. archivist	162	J. of documentation	98
12.	PW	18			LRTS	133	Serial slants	96
13.	Zeit. f. Biblio.	17			Pioneer	89	Unesco bulletin	96
14.	Catholic lib. world	15			*J. of cat. & class.	75	Med.Lib.Assoc.Bull.	87
15.	Public libraries	15			California libn.	72	Lib. Assoc. record	78
16.	*Illinois libs.	14			Law library journal	70	*Illinois libs.	64
17.	NYPL bulletin	11			Serial slants	52	NYPL bulletin	59
18.	J. of documentation	8			NYPL bulletin	50	*J. of cat. & class.	58
19.	Aslib proceedings	5			Catholic lib. world	48	News notes Calif. libs.	52
20.	Ontario lib. rev.	5			LC information bull.	46	Amer. archivist	46
	91 %	2,006			81.8%	3,646	78%	4,256
21.					News notes Calif.	41	Rev.Int. de la Doc.	41
22.					Southeastern libn.	39	Southeastern libn.	36
23.					School libraries	38	California libn.	30
24.					Public libraries	34	Libri	28
25.					Harvard lib. bull	32	PW	25
26.					Minnesota libs.	31	Nachr. f. Dokum.	23
27.					Music Lib Assoc.Notes	30	Boll. Inst. A. Gallo	23
28.					Illinois Occ. Papers	28	J. Chemical doc.	22
29.					Bulletin of bibliog.	27	Law library journal	22
30.					Biblio.Soc.Amer.Papers	25	Australian lib. jour.	18
					89%	3,971	83%	4,524

* these items are those journal titles mentioned in reply to one of Mary L. Bundy's survey questions dealing with the respondents recall of a significant article.

APPENDIX B

Periodical title ranking

Journal	*Circ.	Total Citations	Source Periodicals	Source Monographs	Source Syllabi
Library journal	29,000	645	80	509	56
College and research libraries	11,000	590	53	457	80
Special libraries	7,400	426	37	374	15
Library trends	3,627	379	33	238	108
American documentation	3,300	343	65	275	3
ALA bulletin	27,000	325	41	250	34
Library quarterly	3,030	253	24	176	53
Library resources and technical services	9,000	227	34	176	17
Wilson library bulletin	35,700	194	20	147	27
Aslib proceedings	-	140	16	121	3
Journal of documentation	2,900	98	34	61	3
Serial slants	-	96	-	93	3
Unesco bulletin for libraries	1,000 (US)	96	34	43	19
Medical Library Assoc. Bulletin	2,200	87	15	69	3
Library Association. Record	-	78	22	53	3
Illinois libraries	6,700	64	7	50	7
New York Public Library.Bulletin	1,600	59	-	59	-
Journal of cataloging and classification	-	58	1	52	5
News notes of California libraries	1,700	52	2	41	9
American archivist	1,800	46	12	34	-
Revue internat. de la documentation	-	41	6	34	1
Southeastern librarian	-	36	10	17	9
California librarian	3,500	30	6	16	8
Libri	-	28	14	6	8
Publishers weekly	23,189	25	3	22	-
Nachrichten fur Dokumentation	-	23	2	21	-
Bolletin Inst. A. Gallo	-	23	-	-	-
Journal of chemical documentation	-	22	2	20	-
Law library journal	1,100	22	-	21	-
Australian library journal	3,050	18	1	17	-
LC information bulletin	-	18	7	11	-
Stechert-Hafner book news	5,100	18	1	17	-

(* Circulation figures from Standard periodicals directory. 1967 and Ulhrich's international periodicals directory. 11thed)

(Continued)

APPENDIX B (cont.)

Journal	Circ.	Periodical title ranking: Total Citations	Source Periodicals	Source Monographs	Source Syllabi
PNLA quarterly	1,000	17	-	15	2
Branch library book news (NYPL)	-	17	1	17	-
Maryland libraries	1,400	17	-	17	-
Harvard library bulletin	-	17	-	15	2
Library world	-	16	5	11	-
Tidskrift för dokumentation	-	15	1	14	-
Arizona librarian	600	15	15	-	-
Catholic library world	4,228	14	-	12	2
Annals of library science	350	14	-	14	-
J. of documentary reproduction	-	13	-	13	-
ASLP bulletin	-	13	4	9	-
Ontario library review	5,000	13	1	12	-
Public libraries	-	13	1	12	-
Top of the news	13,500	12	-	12	-
Sci-tech news	3,000-	12	-	12	-
Indexer	-	11	-	11	-
Antiquarian bookman	-	10	5	5	-
Florida libraries	1,100	10	3	7	-
Librarian and book world	-	10	1	8	1
Wisconsin library bulletin	2,500	10	-	7	3
School libraries	7,000	9	4	4	1
North Carolina libraries	1,700	9	1	6	2
National micro-news	-	9	-	9	-
Minnesota libraries	1,905	9	1	6	2
SLA. Texas Cpt. Bulletin	-	8	-	8	-
SLA. Business and Financial Div. Bull.	-	8	-	8	-
Nordisk Tids. for Boc- och Biblio.	-	8	8	-	-
IASLIC bulletin	-	8	-	8	-
Dokumentation	-	8	-	8	-
Dartmouth college library bulletin	-	8	-	8	-
Canadian library	2,500	8	1	6	1
California school libraries	-	8	2	6	-
Bull. des bibliotheques de France	1,200	8	4	3	1
SLA. Geography and Map Div. Bull.	-	7	-	6	-

(Continued)

APPENDIX B (cont.)

Periodical title ranking

Journal	Circ.	Total Citations	Source Periodicals	Source Monographs	Source Syllabi
New Zealand libraries	1,500	7	-	7	-
MLA quarterly	-	7	-	7	-
LC cataloging service bulletin	-	7	1	6	-
J. of education for librarianship	1,000	7	4	2	1
Indian librarian	12,850	7	-	7	-
DC libraries	750	7	-	7	-
Bibliotheekleven	2,300	7	3	4	-
Michigan librarian	1,725	6	2	4	-
Louisiana Library Assoc. Bull.	1,300	6	-	6	-
Idaho librarian	800	6	1	4	1
ARL minutes	-	6	1	3	2
Assistant librarian	10,000	6	1	3	2
Quarterly j. current acq. (LC)	-	5	2	3	-
Mississippi library news	1,000	5	1	4	-
Majallah perpustakaan Singapura	-	5	5	-	-
Library occurent	2,500	5	-	4	-
Library binder	9,000	5	-	5	-

also

15 titles with 4 citations
17 titles with 3 citations
16 titles with 2 citations
56 titles with 1 citation